

AMERICAN Y. M. C. A. TAKES OUT AND THRIVES IN OLD LONDON TOWN

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, March 2.—The newest and most attractive home in London for American officers is called the American Officers' Inn and stands in Cavendish square, one of the most fashionable residential districts of the English metropolis. The inn, which is operated by the American Y. M. C. A., is directly across the square from the American consular office. The inn was formerly occupied by Sir H. H. Raphael, a member of parliament, who was on the point of selling it when he heard that the Americans wanted it, and generously turned it over to them.

The inn, which is a four-story typical English town house, with large rooms and high ceilings, was formally opened by Ambassador Walter Hines Page the other day, when it was inspected by several hundred of the leading Americans in England and others.

Those inspecting the inn included Viscount Bryce, formerly British ambassador at Washington; the Earl of Haddo, the Countess of Reading, wife of the new special ambassador to the United States; Lady Randolph Churchill, Major General Bartlett, in command of the American forces in England, and others widely

known on both sides of the Atlantic. A feature was the attendance of a group of veterans of the American Civil war, now living in England.

The house has been attractively furnished by the American Y. M. C. A. The walls are hung with a series of paintings lent by John Lane, nephew of Sir Hugh Lane, the art collector, who was lost with the Lusitania.

The inn, which combines all the advantages of a first-class club, with dining room, billiard room, library, tea room and about forty bed rooms, is being managed by a committee of American women, including Lady Ward, daughter of the late American ambassador, Whitelaw Reid; Mrs. Spender Clay, Mrs. Cecil Higgins and Mrs. E. C. Carter. They are assisted by about a hundred women, mostly Americans, who are giving up part of their time usually devoted to other war work.

Greeting visitors at the door is Miss Vivian North of New York, who manages to squeeze in a few hours from her hospital work to do this and run the elevator. Just inside the door at the registration desk sits Mrs. Allen Nicholas, already called "Little Mother" by the Americans. Mrs. Nicholas is an

American who has been supervising welfare work among munition workers at Coventry. Her duties correspond to those of a chief clerk behind a hotel desk and she is a virtual encyclopedia of information of things that Americans want to know about London. Working alternately with her is Miss Doris Robson, a niece of Countess Reading, who has been working on the land until a few days ago.

Mrs. Spender Clay, who came from Philadelphia and is the wife of a lieutenant colonel in the British army in France, is general superintendent at the inn. She is the only one to wear the green-grey uniform of the expeditionary force of the American Y. M. C. A.

Pretty pinafores of chintz, designed by a prominent American woman, are worn by the numerous American and English women volunteers who come in to take several hours of duty each day. These women, the majority of whom are widely known in society on both sides of the Atlantic, submit to a sort of discipline most cheerfully. Those assigned to the inn put in a regular routine of duty and none has been known to be tardy. One force relieves another and the work is carried on without interruption.

INCOME TAX DETAILS THAT SHOULD BE READ AND CAREFULLY STUDIED

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, March 2.—John M. Goldbonds—the name is fictional, but there are quite a few John M. in the United States—this year will pay an income tax of \$1,800,180. John M.'s income for 1917 was \$3,000,000.

John D. Smithkins—also fictional—will pay \$10. Smithkins' income for 1917 was \$2,500. Both are married.

This is an illustration of the operation of the income tax provisions of the war revenue act of October 3, 1917, and the act of September 8, 1916, which preceded it and which remains in force.

The normal rate of tax under the act of 1917 is 2 per cent on the net income of unmarried persons in excess of \$1,000 and on the net income of married persons in excess of \$2,000. Under the 1916 act the normal rate is 2 per cent on the net income of unmarried persons in excess of \$3,000 and on the net income of married persons in excess of \$4,000. An extra levy or surtax ranging from 1 per cent on incomes between \$5,000 and \$7,500 to 50 per cent on incomes in excess of \$1,000,000 is imposed by the act of 1917.

The act of 1916, in addition to the normal tax, imposes a surtax ranging from 1 per cent on incomes between \$20,000 and \$40,000 to 13 per cent on incomes in excess of \$2,000.

John M. will pay 2 per cent on his income in excess of \$2,000, 2 per cent on his income in excess of \$4,000, 50 per cent on his income in excess of \$1,000,000 and 13 per cent on his income in excess of \$2,000,000. Smithkins will pay 2 per cent on his income in excess of \$2,500.

The income tax, as thus shown, is

no longer a rich man's tax, but a levy so graduated that every person is assessed according to his income. Last year 600,000 persons paid an income tax. This year the number will be more than 6,000,000.

The estimated revenue to be collected under the war revenue act of 1917 is \$2,500,000,000, of which \$600,000,000 is individual income taxes. Every unmarried person who made \$20 a week or more and every married person who made \$40 a week or more is assessed. Returns are required of unmarried persons whose net income for the calendar year 1917 was \$1,000 or more and of married persons whose net income was \$2,000 or more.

The commissioner of internal revenue, with the approval of the secretary of the treasury, has extended the time for filing returns from March 1 to April 1, 1918. This affords the taxpayer ample opportunity, but to delay until April 1 renders the delinquent subject to a fine of not less than \$20 nor more than \$1,000, and an additional assessment of 50 per cent of the amount of tax due.

Blank forms may be obtained from collectors of internal revenue or from revenue officers, who are visiting every county in the United States to assist taxpayers in making out their returns. The services of these experts are offered without cost. The location of their offices may be obtained on inquiry from collectors, banks or postmasters. The return must be filed with the collector of internal revenue of the district in which the taxpayer lives or has his place of business.

Payment must be made on or before June 15, 1918. The penalty for failing to pay tax when due is an

assessment of 5 per cent of the amount unpaid, plus interest at the rate of 1 per cent a month, during which it remains unpaid. For making a false or fraudulent return, the penalty is a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or not exceeding one year's imprisonment, or both, in the discretion of the court and, in addition, 100 per cent of the tax evaded.

The man who thinks to evade the income tax is storing up for himself trial and tribulation. The government has numerous ways of checking up delinquents. One is through the "information at source" provision of the act of 1917, which requires every employer to file with the commissioner of internal revenue a report of payments of \$800 or more paid to each employee during the calendar year 1917. It is estimated that the number of such reports filed will be 20,000,000.

The bureau of internal revenue, through various agencies, has endeavored to inform taxpayers everywhere of the requirements of the income tax laws. Ignorance of the law cannot be accepted as an excuse. To the "tax dodger" who deliberately seeks to evade his just share of the war burden no consideration will be given. Fortunately for the self-respect of the American nation, the bureau is anticipating few such cases. The bureau has ample and conclusive proof that these taxes for the support of the war will be paid cheerfully and willingly by the great

RAILROADS HIRE WOMEN IN NUMBERS

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, March 2.—A special session of the railroad wage commission was held yesterday to hear Miss Pauline Goldmark, sister-in-law of Associate Justice Brandeis, tell of the employment of women on railroads. She gave figures to show that women are being hired in increasing numbers for heavy work, her statement contradicting in some instances the testimony of railroad executives.

Miss Goldmark appeared as representative of the Consumers' League of New York and other organizations. Her testimony was given informally and will not be included in the record until she has incorporated it in a formal statement.

Women first were employed in any number of the railroads about a year ago, Miss Goldmark said, at the instance of the railroad war board. They were put in clerical positions experimentally, but their use has been extended until now they are in the freight yards, section gangs, shops and roundhouses. While much of the work is suitable to them, many occupations involve heavy physical strain and other hazards. Miss Goldmark doubted the advisability of employing women on section gangs for work out of doors in all conditions of weather and without proper attention to their physical welfare.

"In order that there shall be no wasteful use of labor and to reduce the turnover," she recommended, "it is important to make an investigation and standardize the work for which women may be employed before their numbers increase. One railroad employs 400 on one division and another has a total of 1,517 women workers."

Miss Goldmark declared white women were lifting weights of as much as fifty pounds in work as drill press operators.

"Are women used in England in the same occupations or in harder work?" asked Secretary Lane, chairman of the commission.

"They are used in England in the operation of street railway services and also as station agents and in other work in connection with the operation of trains and in shops," Miss Goldmark said.

She added that the English are using increasing care to provide mechanical equipment for relieving the women from lifting heavy weights. She told of investigating condi-

tions at a factory in Zanesville, O., where many women are employed.

"The majority of women at this plant," she said, "are engaged in hard labor, such as loading scrap iron, sorting scrap iron, wheeling iron castings in wheelbarrows, etc. The women loading scrap and sorting same work out in the yards, no protection from intense rays of the sun or weather being afforded. These women wear overalls and large-brim hats. They hand the iron up from the ground to others in the cars, who pile it. The hours are nine hours a day, 54 hours a week, with one-half hour for lunch; wages 20 cents an hour, and \$1.50 deducted each month for relief purposes. Men receive 21 cents an hour for labor of the same class."

Miss Goldmark says a recommendation has been made that the railroads observe the labor laws in protection of women, but that these laws did not cover many objections.

"For instance, there is no law affecting women employed on the street cars, and therefore it is necessary this year to put in a bill for their benefit," she said.

"There is great confusion as to the classification of women working on the railroads, for in Minnesota the law applies to all establishments where power-driven machines are used, yet railroads claim that the roundhouses are not under the law. In New York state the shops are considered under the federal law, but the roundhouses where the women are employed as engine dispatchers are not so included."

PALACES NOW USED FOR SOLDIERS' HOSPITALS

(By Associated Press.)
ROME, March 2.—The finest old palaces in Italy are gradually being turned into habitations again, after centuries of disuse, due to the need for soldier hospitals and for shelter for the hundreds of thousands of refugees from the invaded provinces. Part of the immense palace at Castrat, built in 1752 for the king of Naples, commonly known as the Versailles of Italy, has been turned into a barracks for Austrian prisoners. Two years ago King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Elena gave the huge royal palace on the Quirinal hill in Rome for use as a hospital, and lately they even gave their own private apartments to refugee children.

Among the buildings belonging to the Catholic church loaned for the same purpose by order of Pope Benedict is the monastery of St. Anselmo, on the Aventine hill.

The American Red Cross has recommended the housing of refugees in specially built huts, as these palaces are unfitted for the homes of poor or working people.

All jewelry repairing done by me will be turned out like new at a moment's notice. Emil Merman, at Roberts grocery. advP211f

be preserved in order to settle disputes as to the appearance of the two poets when young.

EXPEDITIONARY FORCE UNDERGOES HARDSHIP

(By Associated Press.)
LONDON, March 2.—Some of the hardships experienced by the British forces in Palestine are described in a letter received here from a priest. The letter, written shortly before the fall of Jerusalem, tells of a day early in November, when a camel convoy from Beersheba was unable to reach the men then fighting for the deliverance of the Holy City from the Turk.

"There was a hot wind blowing," wrote the priest. "A tumbler full of water was left in my bottle, which I divided between four officers whose lips were split and covered with a green slime. That afternoon I had a burial service, and literally I could not articulate without keeping my hand to my mouth and pulling my lower lip off my teeth, while bullets from a concealed sniper whizzed past us. In the evening water came in, enough to give each one bottle—quite inadequate."

PORTRAITS FOUND OF DANTE AND PETRARCH

(By Associated Press.)
RIMINI, Italy, March 2.—Portraits of Italy's two greatest poets, Dante and Petrarch, have been discovered in the church of St. Augustine. The likenesses represent the poets in their youth and form part of large fresco paintings made in the fourteenth century by students. It is supposed, of the celebrated Giotto and covered over in 1630, after the Black Death pest of that year, when the walls of many hundreds of churches in Italy were whitewashed. Independent of the artistic value of the frescoes, it is stated they will

be preserved in order to settle disputes as to the appearance of the two poets when young.

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